Waiting for the Results

by Denise Duhon

If only they wouldn't keep you waiting so long.

I sweat, though it's not warm in here.
Shifting in my seat.
Thumbing through a mindless
waiting room magazine.
Telling me how to be thin, happy and
decorate a seaside cottage.

I steal furtive glances at the other Waiters.

Some of them are obviously fellow bad-choice makers.

Coulda Woulda Shoulda

Done better, chose different. We're all here.

The lucky and the unlucky
Unsorted
We wait together.

While our fates Crouch behind Beige door number one.

She's calling my name now. The nurse who smiles cheerfully At heads or tails.

I wipe my sweaty palms on my pants and rise To meet It.